

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 02771 260547Z

22-11

ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 DPW-01 SCS-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00

SP-02 PM-03 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 H-01 PRS-01 USIA-01

TRSE-00 IO-03 L-01 /047 W

----- 005297

R 260521Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7366

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 2771

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC PFOR UNHCR VN LA US

SUBJECT: SELECT COMMITTEE ON MIA'S

REF A BANGKOK 31583, B VIENTIANE 2714, C STATE 284893

1. A STAFF MEMBER OF UNHCR VIENTIANE CLAIMS TO HAVE BEEN TOLD THE FOLLOWING BY FOREIGN MINISTRY CHEF DE CABINET SOUBANH SRITHIRATH: IF A SELECT COMMITTEE CODEL VISITED ONLY VIET-NAM AND NOT LAOS IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THEY WERE SLIGHTING THE LAO BY ASSUMING THAT THEY COULD NEGOTIATE WITH THE VIETNAMESE ON BOTH VIET-NAM AND LAOS MIA MATTERS.

2. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT SOUBANH HAS LEARNED EITHER FROM CASELLA, THE LOCAL UNHCR SOURCE, OR FROM THE VIETNAMESE OF THE POSSIBLE TRIP DESCRIBED REFTTEL.

3. WE DO NOT KNOW WHICH PARTICIPANT INITIATED THE CONVERSATION REPORTED IN PARAGRAPH ONE ABOVE AND WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT SOME INDIVIDUAL UNHCR FUNCTIONARIES DO A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF FREE WHEELING. HOWEVER, THE LAO ARE IN VERY CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE
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VIETNAMESE AND WE PASS ON THIS REPORT FOR WHAT, IF

ANYTHING, IT MAY BE WORTH.

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
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